

BRIGHT STAR-SALEM SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT

Providing Quality Water Service to Wood and Rains Counties Since 1971

2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Bright Star-Salem Special Utility District

238 N. Osborn

Alba, TX 75410

www.brightstarwater.com

Public Water System ID: TX2500015

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report), for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2025. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. *Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua potable. Para Asistencia en Espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (903) 765-2701.*

For more information regarding this report, contact: Wanda Gaby, General Manager 903-765-2701 or brightstarsud@yahoo.com

Why You've Received This Report

This report is produced annually and is required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) in order to provide water system information, such as source water, the levels of detected contaminants, and proof of compliance with drinking water regulations. It describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment assists in identifying source water protection strategies.

Where We Get Our Drinking Water

Bright Star-Salem SUD has two main water production sources. About 72 percent of total production comes from groundwater wells located in Rains and Wood Counties, in the Carlizzo Wilcox Aquifer, and about 28 percent is surface water from Lake Fork, processed at our own surface water treatment plant located on FM 2946. Our water system also sells surface water to our neighboring utility South Rains SUD. In 2025 the water district pumped 113,538,8200 gallons of ground water and 45,504,811 of surface water to our customers.

Source Water Assessment and Protection

TCEQ completed an assessment of Bright Star-Salem SUD's source water, and results indicate that some of the area's sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements of BSSSUD's water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in the Consumer Confidence Report (Pages 4-6). For more information on water source assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact our office at 903-765-2701. The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, and in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. For more information about your source(s) of water please refer to the source water assessment viewer:

www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/swview

Sources of Drinking Water

Bright Star-Salem SUD is a Surface Water System, that also provides groundwater. If you are unsure of the source of your water, please contact our office and ask about source water.

Our water sources are listed below:

Source Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
1 - Salem Well	Ground Water	Active	251 County Rd 1540, Alba
2 - Plugged Well	Ground Water	Inactive	Near Salem
3 - Hwy 182 Front Well	Ground Water	Active	7385 State Hwy 182, Alba
4 - Hwy 182 Back Well	Ground Water	Active	7385 State Hwy 182, Alba
5 - McKenzie Well	Ground Water	Active	827 WCR 1570, Alba
6 - Bright Star Main Well	Ground Water	Active	850 RCR 3380, Alba
7 - Bright Star Booster Well	Ground Water	Active	869 RCR 3380, Alba
8 - Shipp Well	Ground Water	Active	1285 RCR 3480, Alba
9 - Hass Well	Ground Water	Active	1385 RCR 3385, Alba
10 - Parmer Well	Ground Water	Inactive	2811 RCR 3380, Alba
11 - Hogansville Front Well	Ground Water	Inactive	South of SWTP
12 - Hogansville Rear Well	Ground Water	Inactive	South of SWTP
13 - Garner Well	Ground Water	Inactive	WCR 1513
14 - Lynn Well	Ground Water	Active	13977 FM 514, Emory
15 - Spinks Well	Ground Water	Active	12476 FM 514, Emory
16 - Intake 1 Lake Fork Reservoir	Surface Water	Active	3095 FM 2946, Emory

All Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amount of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or by visiting : water.epa.gov/drink/hotline/index.cfm.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants – such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants – such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides – which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants – including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants – which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottles water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant women, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. BRIGHT STAR-SALEM SUD is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water and wish to have your water tested, contact BRIGHT STAR-SALEM SUD at 903-765-2701. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

A service line inventory has been prepared and can be accessed by contacting our office at 903-765-2701, or 238 N. Osborn, Alba, TX 75410.

In the tables below, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 Assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Treatment Technique or TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Variations and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Turbidity: A measure of the clarity of drinking water. The lower the turbidity, the better. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. During the reporting year, samples taken to measure turbidity met water quality standards.

AVG: Average – Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

RAA: Running Annual Average

LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average

mrem: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).

<MRL: Less than the Minimum Reporting Level, A result is at undetectable levels.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units, A measure of turbidity.

ppb: micrograms per liter (ug/L) or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ppm: milligrams per liter (mg/L) or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

ppt: Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

picocuries per liter (pCi/L): picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

na: not applicable.

Disinfectant Residual

All public water systems in Texas are required to disinfect drinking water to ensure control of microbial contaminants. Disinfectants are water additives used to control microbes.

ALL GROUNDWATER

Disinfectant	Year	Average Level	Unit	Range	MRDL/MRDLG Goal
Chlorine	2025	1.45	ppm	0.35 – 3.70	4/4

ALL SURFACE WATER

Disinfectant	Year	Average Level	Unit	Range	MRDL/MRDLG Goal
Chloramines	2025	3.11	ppm	0.53 – 4.08	4/4

Regulated Contaminants

In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of the chemical sampling.

Lead & Copper	Period	90 th Percentile: 90% of your water utility levels were less than	Range of Sampled Results (low – high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2023 – 2025	0.321	0 – 0.379	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	2023 – 2025	0	0	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits

ALL GROUNDWATER

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	Valve @ 110 RCR 2450 Emory	2025	11	12.3	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	Valve @ 110 RCR 2450 Emory	2025	43	42.5	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection

ALL SURFACE WATER

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	Valve @ 393 RCR 3390 Emory	2025	27	18.2	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	Valve @ 393 RCR 3390 Emory	2025	37	14.6	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Barium	7/14/2025	0.024	0.024	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide	7/14/2025	71.8	71.8	ppm	0	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.
Dibromochloromethane	7/14/2025	21.7	0 – 21.7	UG/L	0	0.06	
Fluoride	7/14/2025	0.27	0.0579 – 0.27	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	7/14/2025	0.352	0 – 0.352	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate-Nitrite	12/14/2021	0.0409	0 – 0.0409	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite	4/18/2023	0.0254	0.0254	ppm	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Some people who drink water containing cyanide well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience nerve damage or problems with their thyroid.

(Ground Water)

Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Combined Radium (-226 & -228)	3/22/2022	1.5	1.5	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity	7/14/2025	4.7	0 – 4.7	pCi/L	50	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

UCMR5 (Unregulated Contaminants)

Constituent	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source of Constituent
Lithium	2025	11.23	9.2 - 17.0	N/A	N/A	ug/L	N	Lithium is a naturally occurring metal that may concentrate in brine waters. Lithium salts are used as pharmaceuticals, in electrochemical cells, batteries, and organic syntheses.
PFBA	2025	0.0054	.0052-.0056	N/A	N/A	ppt	N	PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals used in a wide range of consumer products and industrial applications. These include non-stick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain-resistant fabrics and carpets, cosmetics, firefighting foams, electroplating, and products that resist grease, water and oil.

Turbidity - (Surface Water)

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration.

Percentage of samples in compliance with standard	Months Occurred	Violation	Highest Single Measurement	Month Occurred	Sources	Level Indicator
99.00	12	NO	0.66	May	SWTP – FM 2946	Yes

Total Organic Carbon - - (Surface Water)

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month, and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

TOC	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	TT	Typical Source
CARBON, TOTAL	3/5/2025	7.58	2.88 – 7.58		0	Yes

Violations - (Ground and Surface Water)

During the period covered by this report we had the following violations.

Violation Period	Analyte	Violation Type	Violation Explanation
12/30/2025 – 3/2/2026	Lead & Copper Rule	Lead Consumer Notice (LCR)	Failed to meet content, delivery, and/or reporting requirements for lead consumer notification

Lead Consumer Notice Certification Form 20680a

PWS ID #: TX 2500015

PWS NAME: Bright Star-Salem SUD

Monitoring Period to which the notice applies: Reduced MP Sept 30th
Date(s) results were received from laboratory: 08/26/2025 & 10/05/2025

Date(s) results were provided to customers: 9/5/2025 & 10/16/2025

The water system named above hereby certifies that its lead consumer notice has been provided to each person it serves at the specific sampling site from which the sample was tested. The water system also certifies that these results and the following information were provided to such persons within 30 days of receiving the test results from the laboratory:

- Individual tap results from lead tap water monitoring carried out under the requirements of 30 TAC §290.117(j).
- An explanation of the health effects of lead.
- Steps that consumers can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water.
- Contact Information for our water utility.
- The maximum contaminant level goals and action levels for lead, and the definitions of these two terms.

Certified by:

Name: Wanda Gaby *Wanda Gaby*

Title: General Manager

Phone: 903-850-0147 or 903-765-2701